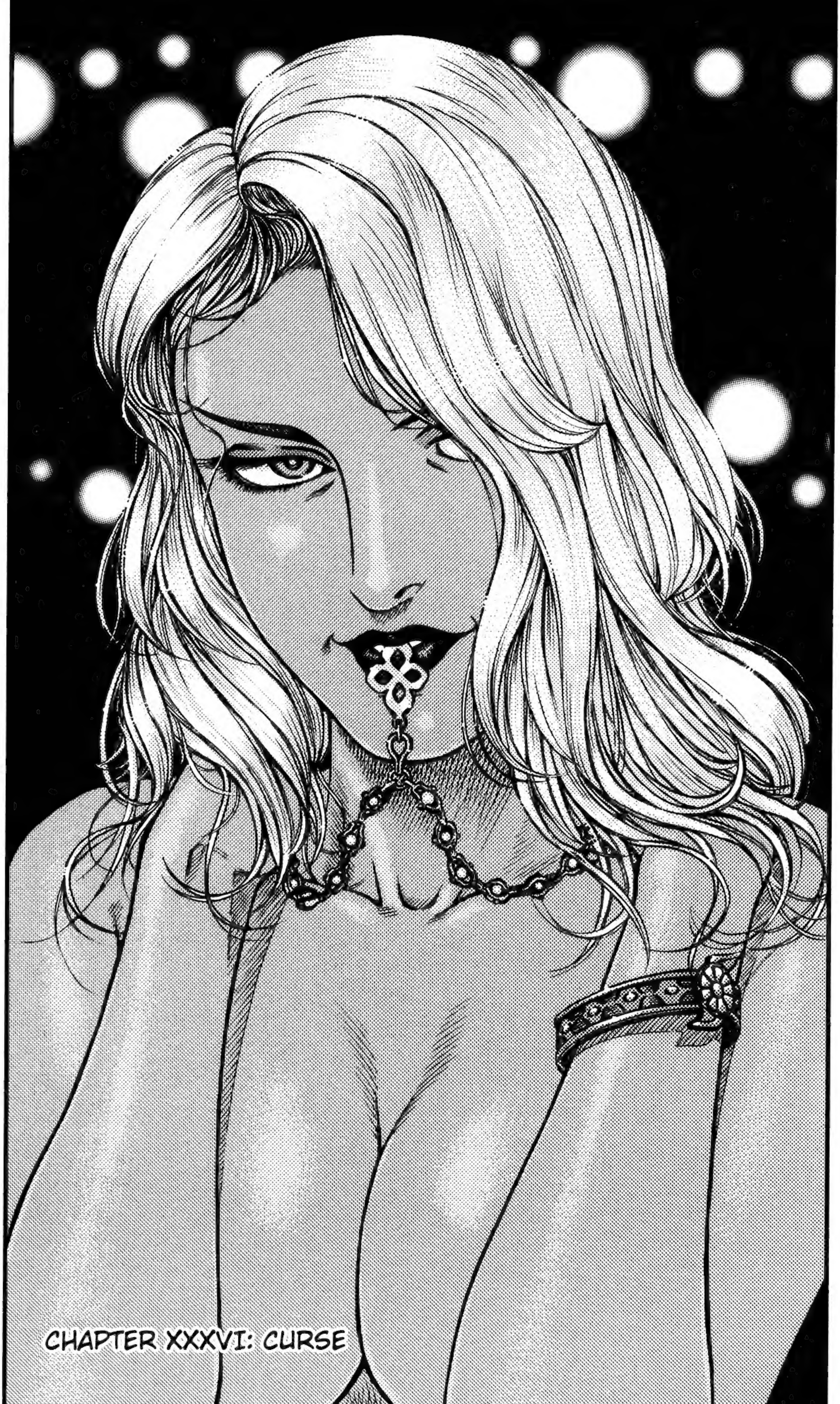

CHAPTER XXXVI: CURSE

ミッション

SWISH.

SWISH.

YOU EMBARASS ME YOUR MAJESTY.

I AM NOT WELL VERSED IN HAND TO HAND COMBAT, YET IT LEFT ME TAKEN ABACK.

THAT WAS A FINE PERFOR-MANCE RUSKA.

IF POSSIBLE I WOULD DESIRE TO DO SO TOMORROW.

YES SIRE.

DO YOU NOW INTEND TO RETURN TO THE PRAETORIAN GUARD?

SHAKE.

SHAKE.

SHAKE.

HE JUST SNEERED AT ME!

I WAS IGNORED.

IF YOU WOULD EXCUSE ME.

?!

はあ。

THAT I AM NOT EVEN WORTHY OF BEING HATED?!

DOES HE MEAN TO SAY THAT AT PRESENT I AM NOT A SLAVE BOXER!

IN THIS TRANQUIL, SHOWY, SEPARATE WORLD...

JUST WHAT DO I DO?!

WHAT IS THIS IMPATIENCE?!

IN THE END...

I NEVER NEED FIGHT AGAIN, YET...!

DO I HAVE NOTHING BUT MY FISTS?

YET I CANNOT STAND THIS TEDIUM!

AAAH, I'M SO BOOORED...

WON'T OPEN UP.

ｷｨｰｯ...

BUT MASTER...

I HAVE NOT EVEN A SINGLE ENEMY HERE...

EVEN IF I SWING MY FISTS ALONE, THE PATH...

THE TRUTH IS THAT I AM BOUND HAND AND FOOT, AND AM UNABLE TO DO A THING.

WHILE IT MAY SEEM AS THOUGH I CAN DO ANYTHING...

I CANNOT FLEE A SINGLE STEP FROM ROME...

NO MATTER WHERE I MAY HEAD TO, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS HOUND ME...

IN EXCHANGE FOR BEING ABLE TO ACQUIRE WHATEVER I WANT...

I MUST ENDURE TRANSPARENT FLATTERY...

AND MUST ACT AS A PUBLIC PERSON...

EVEN IF IT IS A BEAUTIFUL, GAUDY PRISON...

ONE CANNOT BREATHE IN IT!

THE LORD OF THE WORLD AND A MERE SLAVE ARE RATHER SIMILAR, WE'RE BOTH BOUND TO THE THRONE... AREN'T WE.

I'VE LONGED TO GO SINCE I WAS LITTLE.

GREECE! IF I AM TO GO ANYWHERE IT MUST BE GREECE!

I WANT TO CAST IT ALL ASIDE AND HEAD SOMEPLACE FAR AWAY.

AAAH, ENOUGH. I'M SICK OF IT!

I MIGHT BE GREEK BUT...

I WAS BORN IN SYRIA...

SAY, ACTE.

WHEREA-BOUTS?

FAR AWAY YOU SAY.

AAAH...

IS THAT SO NOW.

WHY DO YOU NEVER TALK OF YOUR HOMELAND?

YOUR MAJESTY YOU MUSTN'T...

IT'S TOO SUDDEN.

I'M BORED, ACTEEE.

KYAAA. NO, WAIT...

HAAAH!

MOTHER!

ISN'T IT RATHER RUDE OF YOU TO SUDDENLY BURST IN?!

YOU'RE LIKE A DOG IN HEAT.

WHAT A VULGAR WAY OF GETTING INTIMATE...

!

HMPH.

SO YOU'RE ACTE.

WHAT A THICK-HEADED CHILD.

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IF YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH ME YOU SHOULD LET ME KNOW BEFOREHAND.

もう"

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STAND.

LET ME SEE YOUR FACE.

MY LADY THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

YES.

HOHOHO... YOU NEEDN'T BE SO HUMBLE.

IT SEEMS THAT YOU WERE ONE OF OCTAVIA'S ATTENDANTS...

DID YOU DISREGARD HIS STATUS AS HER HUSBAND AND ARRANGE AN AFFAIR?!

GOODNESS ME, WHAT A BRAZEN GIRL YOU ARE!

MOTHER!

YOU HAVE SOME NERVE DON'T YOU.

JUST WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO COAX FROM NERO...

BY GETTING SO CLOSE TO HIM?!

CONFESS, YOU CHEAP SEDUCTRESS!

YOU'VE REALLY NO REASON TO GO AT IT WITH A LOW CLASS WRETCH LIKE THIS.

ギク..

YOU'VE YOUR DARLING CONSORT OCTAVIA DON'T YOU.

AH...

BUT...

ゴク.

SO YOU WERE PLAYING AROUND WITH HER?

OF COURSE.

IT WAS ALL ACCORDING TO MY LORD NERO'S OWN DESIRES...

THAT IS COMPLETELY ASBURD...

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YES.

MOTHER.

AH.

IF YOU WERE SIMPLY PLAYING AROUND I'LL LET YOU OFF, YOU ARE A MAN AFTER ALL.

ERM...

NO.

THAT'S SO ISN'T IT?

WELL?

RIGHT?

YOU WERE SIMPLY PLAYING?

YOUR WENT TOO FAR MOTHER...

YOU WOULD DO WELL TO CONSIDER YOUR SOCIAL STANDING, AND NEVER HOLD ANY FURTHER SUCH AMBITIONS.

DID YOU HEAR THAT, ACTE?

ACTE IS NOT THAT SORT OF GIRL, SHE...

プル

プル

LEAVE.

HOLD

SILENCE!

AH!

AS THE EMPEROR, IT IS A NECESSITY THAT YOU HAVE A FITTING CONSORT!

WHAT A STUPID CHILD YOU ARE!

DIDN'T I TELL YOU AS MUCH?!

WELL...

WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO DECIDED MY MARRIAGE ANYWAY...!

WHY DO YOU NOT PERFORM YOUR DUTY AS A HUSBAND BEFORE CHEATING?!

WITHOUT LISTENING TO MY...

Y... YOU...

YOU ALWAYS DO THIS MOTHER!

DON'T HIT ME MOTHER!

AAH...!

I'M SORRY!

HAAH...

...

FORGIVE ME, PLEASE...

HAAH...

HAAH...

HAAH...

RATHER THAN BEING ON THE OFFENCE, IT'S BEING TORMENTED THAT AROUSES YOU RIGHT.

THAT INTROVERTED, SULLEN GIRLS LIKE OCTAVIA...

ARE NOT TO YOUR LIKING.

I KNOW FULL WELL, DOMITIUS...

ウニャ

AH...

WHATEVER SECRETS YOU HAVE...

YOU SHOULDN'T LIE...

HAH...

ブルル...

HOW DEPRAVED! WHAT A HOPELESS, NO GOOD SON YOU ARE...

IS THIS A REACTION TO YOUR MOTHER?

ﾅﾞﾆｬ

YOU ARE MINE AFTER ALL...

I CAN SEE THROUGH THEM.

MO... THER...

ﾆｭﾙﾙ...

HERE...

I'LL FORGIVE YOU...

NOW THEN...

BEAR NO SIGNS OF AGE AT ALL?!

WHY DOES THIS WOMAN...

ちうちうう

IF YOU'RE A GOOD BOY AND DO AS I SAY, I'LL COMFORT YOU ONCE MORE.

MAKE SURE TO LOVE OCTAVIA PROPERLY.

LISTEN NERO.

...

I AM ROME'S ALL CONTROLLING SOVEREIGN!

FU...

FUFU...

KUH...

I AM CAESAR!

THERE IS NO ONE GREATER THAN I!

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ﾚﾛｱ..

IN THE ENTIRE WORLD...

I SHOULD BE GREATER THAN...

ANYONE ELSE...

TO THINK YOU'D BE HERE...

I WAS LOOK-ING FOR YOU.

AAH... CESTVS...

AH...

フラ

フラ

HUFF.

HUFF, HUFF.

HUFF.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, CESTVS?!

WHAT... ARE YOU DOING...?

はっ

BUT...

はっ

はっ

I CAN'T GET TO SLEEP IF I DON'T WORK MY BODY.

STOP THIS AT ONCE!

I'M SORRY MY LORD...

I DIDN'T MEAN FOR YOU TO NOTICE.

YOU NO LONGER NEED TO FIGHT.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO PRACTICE!

IF I ORDER IT, THEN YOU STOP!

JUST A LITTLE MORE AND I'LL BE DONE...

I WAS THE ONE WHO SAVED YOU!

ARE YOU NOT HAPPY?!

WHY ON EARTH...

YOU SHOULD AT LEAST THANK ME A LITTLE!

AND IN THE END YOU STILL GO ON PRACTICING?!

YOU NEVER DRANK THE HIGH CLASS WINE I RECOMMENDED.

YOU NEVER ATE THE FOOD I HAD PREPARED FOR YOU...

NOTHING BUT A DOG...

I WILL NOT HAVE YOU TURN AGAINST ME!

THAT I TOOK IN AND FED!

YOU ARE...

UH!

ギュウ..

NO...

I'M NOT A DOG...

AND DOGS SHOULD...

MEEKLY OBEY THEIR MASTERS!

I'M NOTHING LIKE A DOG...

I AM...

A SLAVE BOXER!

CHAPTER XXXVI: CURSE - END